

## § 1823.2

forwarded to the manager for his consideration and action.

### **§ 1823.2 Procedures.**

#### **§ 1823.2-1 Examination of claimant and witnesses.**

All final proofs should be reduced to writing by or in the presence of and under the supervision of the officer taking them, and in all cases where no representative of the Government appears for the purpose of making cross-examinations the officer taking the proof should use his utmost endeavor and diligence so to examine the entryman and his witnesses as to obtain full, specific, and unevasive answers to all questions propounded on the blank forms prescribed for the taking of such proofs, and in addition to so doing he should make and reduce to writing and forward to the authorized officer with the proof such other and further rigid cross-examination as may be necessary clearly to develop all pertinent and material facts affecting or showing the validity of the entry, the entryman's compliance with the law, and the credibility of the claimant and his witnesses. And, in addition to this, he should inform the authorized officer of any facts not set out in the testimony which in his judgment cast suspicion upon the good faith of the applicant or the validity of the entry.

#### **§ 1823.2-2 Testimony to be taken separate and apart from and not within the hearing of the others.**

The testimony of each claimant should be taken separate and apart from and not within the hearing of either of his witnesses, and the testimony of each witness should be taken separate and apart from and not within the hearing of either the applicant or of any other witness, and both the applicant and each of the witnesses should be required to state in and as a part of the final proof testimony given by them that they have given such testimony without any actual knowledge of any statement made in the testimony of either of the others.

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### **§ 1823.2-3 Advice concerning laws and penalties for false swearing.**

Officers taking affidavits and testimony should call the attention of parties and witnesses to the laws respecting false swearing and the penalties therefor and inform them of the purpose of the Government to hold all persons to a strict accountability for any statements made by them.

### **§ 1823.2-4 Fees; costs.**

(a) Reducing testimony to writing. On all final proofs made before the officer of the Bureau of Land Management authorized to take proofs, the claimant must pay to the authorized officer the costs of reducing the testimony to writing, as determined by the authorized officer. No proof shall be accepted or approved until such payment has been made.

### **§ 1823.3 Transmittal of proof papers.**

The officer who has taken a proof should, after duly certifying the papers, promptly transmit them to the authorized officer. In no case should the transmittal thereof be left to the claimant.

### **§ 1823.4 Proof on entries in more than one district.**

(a) In submitting proof, the two entries should be treated as one, and the published notice of intention should describe all the land and specify in which land district each part of the claim is located. If the notice is published correctly and the proof is satisfactory, the authorized officer who issued the notice for publication will issue final certificate for the portion within his land district on payment of the testimony fees and payment of the commissions and (if required) the purchase money due for the land in his district. He will then advise the authorized officer of the district wherein the remainder of the claim is located, who will, on receipt of the final commissions and purchase money (if any) due for the part in his district, issue final certificate for that portion without further proof.

(b) Should a proof be rejected by the office from which the notice of intention is issued the appeal or further